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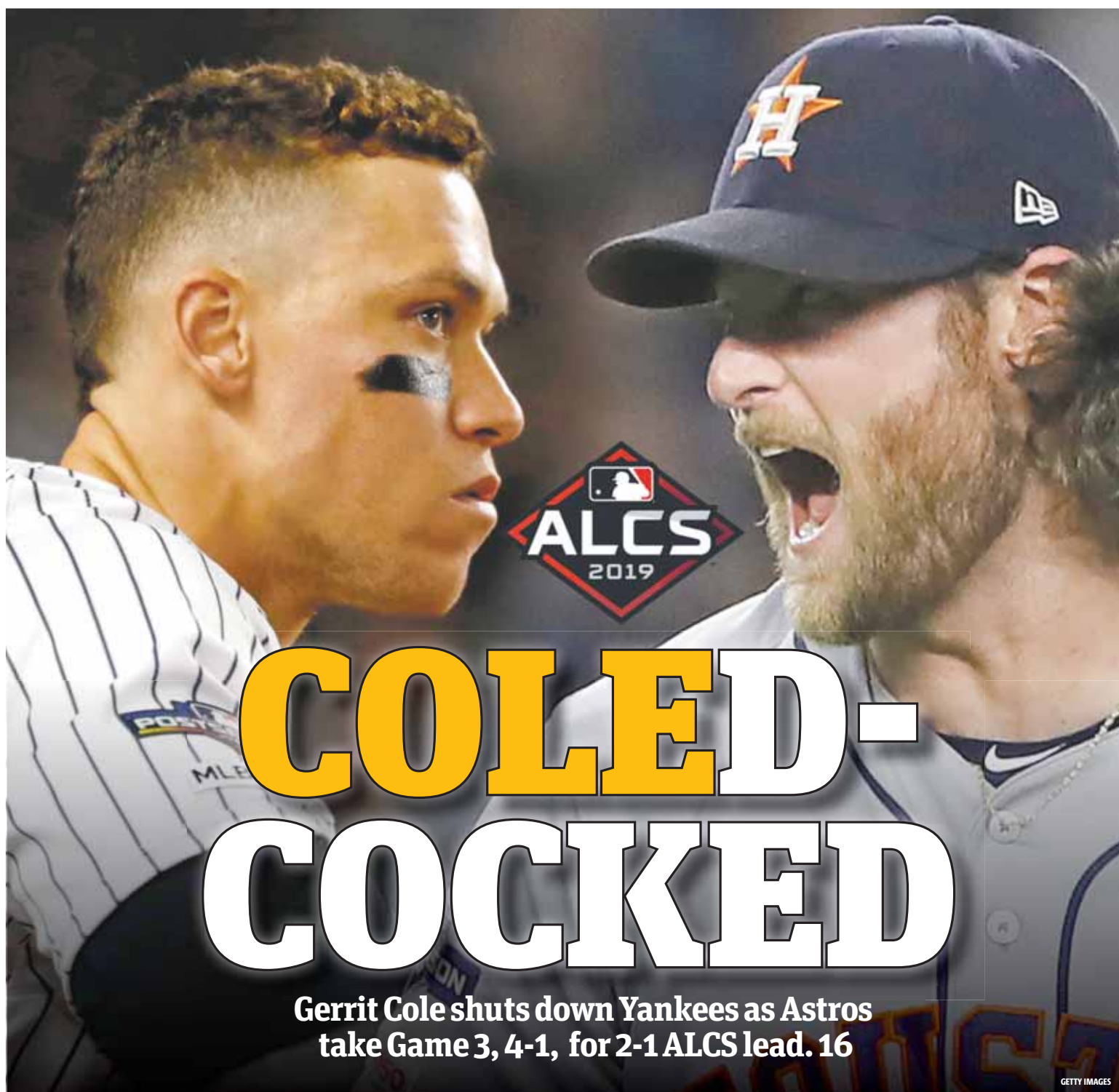
## LAURA JANE GRACE

Against Me! will play four of their beloved records this fall. 12-13



Mayor's Jails to Jobs gets \$19 million in extra funding. 4

Google unveils new Pixel smartphones. 6





## THINGS TO KNOW

Syrian border towns have been the hardest hit.

Turkey pressed ahead with its offensive in northern Syria on Tuesday despite U.S. sanctions and growing calls for it to stop, while Syria's Russia-backed army moved on the key city of Manbij that was abandoned by U.S. forces in Donald Trump's retreat.

Reuters journalists accompanied Syrian government forces who entered the center of Manbij, a flashpoint where U.S. troops had previously conducted joint patrols with Turkey.

Russian and Syrian flags were flying from a building on the city outskirts, and from a convoy of military vehicles.

Russia's Interfax news agency, citing Moscow's Defense Ministry, said later that Syrian forces had taken control of an area of more than 1,000 square kilometers around Manbij. This included Tabqa military airfield, two hydroelectric power plants and several bridges across the Euphrates river, it said.

Trump's unexpected decision to withhold protection from Syria's Kurds after a phone call with Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan a week ago swiftly upended five years of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

# Turkey pushes offensive in Syria, despite sanctions and calls to stop



Syrian National Army troops patrol the streets of Tal Abyad, a border town in northern Syria.

ALL IMAGES GETTY IMAGES

The withdrawal gives a free hand to Washington's adversaries in the world's deadliest ongoing war, namely Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his Russian and Iranian allies.

The United States announced on Sunday it was withdrawing its entire force of 1,000 troops from northern Syria. Its former Kurdish allies immediately forged a new alliance with Assad's government, inviting the army into towns across the breadth of their territory.

In Manbij, Syrian troops were manning joint checkpoints alongside regional Kurdish militia (YPG), witnesses said.

A YPG official said

## 1,000

The United States announced on Sunday it was withdrawing its entire force of 1,000 troops from northern Syria.

Turkish-backed fighters were still 15 km north of the city. Turkey's state-owned Anadolu agency said six civilians were killed and 13 wounded in three villages near the town of Jarabulus in a YPG attack launched from north of Manbij.

A Reuters cameraman on the Turkish frontier reported heavy bombardment on Tuesday morn-

ing of the Syrian border town of Ras al Ain where an SDF spokesman reported a fierce battle going on.

Trump announced a set of sanctions on Monday to punish Ankara, and on Tuesday a senior U.S. official said Washington would threaten more sanctions to persuade Turkey to reach a ceasefire and halt its offensive.

The measures announced on Monday – mainly a hike in steel tariffs and a pause in trade talks – were less robust than financial markets had anticipated, and Trump's critics derided them as too feeble to have an impact.

The Turkish lira, which had fallen on the expectation of tougher U.S. measures, recovered after the sanctions were announced, as did its bond and stock markets, with traders noting that Trump had spared Turkish banks.

Bilateral trade between Turkey and the United States is relatively small – around a tenth the size of Turkey's trade with Europe. Washington's most effective form of economic leverage would be to hinder Turkey's access to U.S. financial markets, a step Trump has so far avoided.

In a potentially more damaging blow, German carmaker Volkswagen

said it was postponing a final decision on whether to build a 1 billion euro (\$1.1 billion) plant in Turkey, citing concern over "current developments" after international condemnation of the incursion.

Following Trump's announcement, the U.S. Treasury said on Monday it had sanctioned Turkey's energy, defense and interior ministers, as well as the ministries of energy and defense.

Trump has defended his reversal of U.S. policy as part of a plan to extricate the United States from "endless" wars in the Middle East.

But his critics, including senior figures in his own Republican Party, cast it as a betrayal of the Kurds, loyal allies who lost thousands of fighters as the principal ground forces in Washington's battle against IS.

The Kurdish YPG militia, the key component of the forces who fought IS, is seen by Ankara as a terrorist group aligned with Kurdish separatist insurgents in Turkey.

The United Nations says 160,000 people have fled their homes as Turkish forces advance. The regional Kurdish administration puts the number of displaced at 270,000.

The U.N. Human Rights office said on Tuesday Turkey could be held responsible for war crimes by fighters under its direction. **REUTERS**

## Actress Felicity Huffman reports to prison

**2** "Desperate Housewives" star Felicity Huffman reported to a federal prison in California on Tuesday to begin serving a 14-day sentence for her role in a vast U.S. college admissions cheating scandal. The one-time Academy Award nominee, 56, turned herself in to authorities at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California, her spokesman said in a statement. U.S. District Judge Indira

Talwani had sentenced her to serve two weeks behind bars after Huffman pleaded guilty to conspiracy related to her payment of \$15,000 to have someone secretly correct answers on her daughter Sophia's SAT college entrance test. "Ms. Huffman is prepared to serve the term of imprisonment Judge Talwani ordered as one part of the punishment she imposed for Ms. Huffman's actions," her spokesman said. **REUTERS**

## Pence declines to share documents with House

**3** Vice President Mike Pence declined on Tuesday to submit documents to the House of Representative committees pursuing an impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump, his office said, calling the probe "self-proclaimed" and the requests for information too broad. Pence joins Donald Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, in refusing to cooperate with the investigation. Pence's counsel, Matthew Morgan, said in a



letter to three Democratic lawmakers that the scope of documents requested included some "which are clearly not vice-presidential records." The White House considers the Democratic-led House's impeachment process to be unfair and without due process. **REUTERS**

## Cuba Gooding Jr. pleads not guilty to buttock pinching

**4** Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to pinching a woman's buttocks in a nightclub last October, four months after he was charged with groping a woman in a separate incident. Manhattan prosecutors said Gooding pinched the woman at Manhattan's Tao nightclub after making a sexually suggestive remark to her earlier in the evening,



and denied it when she confronted him. Gooding was accused in June of touching a woman's breasts at the Magic Hour Rooftop Bar in Manhattan, a charge he has denied. Both alleged incidents are part of the same criminal case. He is charged with one count of forcible touching and one count of sexual abuse, which are misdemeanors, in connection with each alleged incident. **REUTERS**



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## NEWS



NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio holds a press conference for his new initiative.

TWITTER @NYCGOV

# Jails to Jobs gets \$19 million expansion

Program promotes second chances for former inmates.



BECCA  
GLASSER-BAKER  
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

New York City pledged \$19 million annually to help expand its Jails to Jobs program.

The Jails to Jobs program helps people leaving city jails with workforce training, one-to-one mentors, educational subsidies and short-term transitional roles. The program provides transitional employment to all leaving city jails, no matter the sentencing.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a press release, "New York City believes in second chances. With Jails to Jobs, we are breaking the cycle of incarceration by making sure people in City custody have the opportunity to learn and grow while in jail and a pathway to stability as they return to their communities."

The \$19 million will help expand the re-entry

According to a press release, here are some of the enhancements this program will be getting as a result of the \$19 million:

- **Hybrid in-custody roles:** To ensure the greatest levels of success, planning for release must begin while an individual is in custody. The solicitation creates specialized "hybrid" roles that connect service providers with people in custody prior to release. Providers will be able to assess the individuals' needs and make connections to supports in the community upon discharge.
- **Enhanced day-of-discharge supports:** Research demonstrates the period immediately following release is critical, particularly to ensure immediate needs are met during times of transition. The new solicitation aims to connect people with service providers at the point of release to provide basic needs and connect people to longer term services.
- **Peer mentors:** People with lived experience in the criminal justice system are uniquely positioned

to foster trusting relationships and promote service engagement for those with similar experiences, leading to increased stability upon release. To build on their expertise, the solicitation creates roles for credible peer mentors to assist individuals in their transition from jail back to the community.

- **Localized service provision:** To ensure services are accessible to individuals released from jail, re-entry services aim to be localized in the neighborhoods to which most people return, including through partnerships with local organizations and institutions.
- **Expanded services:** Comprehensive services, including paid transitional employment, job readiness workshops and supports, therapeutic services, and a variety of social services, will be provided and coordinated as part of the solicitation.

program, going towards job readiness workshops, social services and therapeutic services. The program helped around 5,200

individuals this past year and with the \$19 million, the city will be able to offer this program to around 9,000 people.

## BRIEF

### Verizon team finds a dead body inside midtown manhole

A man's body was found in a manhole in midtown Manhattan Tuesday morning.

Verizon workers were installing phone lines on 8th Avenue and West 58th Street when they noticed a smell coming from the manhole, ABC reports.

The manhole provides workers access to telephone lines.

Once inside the manhole,

workers discovered the body but did not get close to it. The body was found at around 3 a.m.

Officials closed down the area at 58th Street from 8th Avenue to Broadway.

It was not clear how long the body had been there, but outlets report it had to have been a few days.

Investigators told outlets the victim is likely a homeless person. Nothing will be confirmed until after the Medical Examiner

investigates to determine the person's identity and age.

It is not clear how the man got there. Workers report that lifting a manhole is a job for multiple people and that it requires a tool.

Some workers are scratching their heads about how the person got down there in such a busy area and who closed the manhole.

There is no more information available at this time. BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

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Sabrina Ellis, Google vice president of product management, speaks about the new Google Pixel 4 phone during a Google product launch event called "Made by Google '19" in New York City on October 15, 2019.

ALL PHOTOS  
GETTY IMAGES

## Google unveils Pixel 4 phones with radar, more affordable laptop

Major release of company hardware.

Google unveiled new Pixel smartphones with higher quality cameras, a radar sensor to track hand gestures and faster virtual assistant on Tuesday, but the devices had no surprise features to set them apart from rivals and nix concerns about price.

The Pixel 4 phones, in two sizes, headlined a New York press event at which Google also announced its first moderately priced laptop, first wireless earbuds and upgrades to its well-reviewed Wifi router and burger-sized smart speaker.

Google started developing hardware about four years ago, wagering that it could introduce artificial intelligence into devices faster and better than rivals and that consumers would clamor for such features.

The strategy has generated mixed results. But the world's largest search company is pushing forward, not wanting to cede ground to Amazon, com Inc, Facebook Inc and other competitors which are investing in hardware to make users spend more time on their services.

Google's lower-priced devices have been top sellers, but are far from being ma-



The new Google Pixelbook Go laptop is on display during a Google product launch event called "Made by Google '19."

jor profit drivers. Higher-priced devices, such as the Pixel phones, have gained little traction versus those of industry leaders such as Samsung Electronics Co and Apple Inc because of limited marketing and stiff competition. Consumers are also holding on to their devices for much longer.

People are "starting to look for more affordable smartphone options instead of going for a high-end, premium smartphones for (over) \$800," said Maurice Klaehne, a devices analyst at technology market researcher Counterpoint.



The new Google Pixel Buds ear pods.

That has been good news for the Pixel 3a, which launched in May starting at \$399, he said. It will remain available in the dozen countries such as Japan and Germany where the Pixel 4 will go on sale. India, where the Pixel 3a is on sale, has yet to approve the Pixel 4's radar chip.

The Pixel 3a boosted Google's smartphone sales to 4.1 million in the first half of 2019, compared to 4.7 million for all of 2018, technology research company IDC said. Still, Google accounted for under 1% of smartphones shipped during the second quarter, according to IDC.

Google's product roll-outs have been slow and deliberate, but the company has said that just having the devices in the market has been good for its brand.

The fourth-generation Pixel starts at \$799 for a 5.7-inch (14.5-cm) display and \$899 for a 6.3-inch display, and for the first time all four major U.S. wireless carriers will offer the smartphones, beginning Oct. 24. REUTERS

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# Doctors Urge Knee Pain Sufferers

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But I’m sure you already know that. Or you wouldn’t be reading this.

**That’s the bad news.**

**Now for some good news...**

Over the years, **NYC Pain MD** has treated countless knee pain sufferers. And in that time have been able to constantly improve.

And we have come up with a treatment formula that we have found works best and helps the most patients.

This formula has reduced or even eliminated the pain in many. Some were scheduled for knee replacement surgery and felt good enough to cancel their surgery.

It’s amazing when patients who were once in excruciating pain... start feeling better. And start walking again. And playing golf. Or tennis. And finally getting their lives back.

Especially when they had gone to other doctors and tried so many other things.

So many had given up hope.

Sound familiar? If it does... check this out...

### **The Treatment Formula**

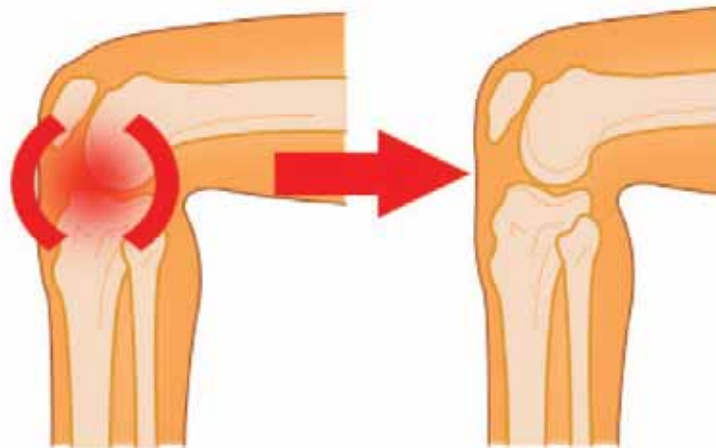
While I can’t give you the entire treatment formula here (there is not enough space and WAY too complicated ) I can give you the basics. And more important... I can tell you what it might be able to do for YOU.

The first and most important part of the formula is: **PATIENT SELECTION.**

This means, **NYC Pain MD** has a detailed screening process to tell who is most likely to be helped by their treatments... and who is not.

If you qualify, you have the opportunity to move forward and experience the worldclass treatments that **NYC Pain MD** offers.

If you do not, **NYC Pain MD** will tell you what they think your best options are and help



**NYC Pain MD “Treatment Formula”** A protocol of advanced medical treatments that has already helped thousands.

you find the right doctor for you.

If you qualify, **NYC Pain MD** offers some of the most advanced medical treatments available today all using the most advanced imaging technology including:

- Viscosupplementation (gel injections)
- Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP)
- Stem Cell Therapy (Lipogems)
- Genicular Knee Block
- And more.

Once again, there is not enough space to go into detail about all these procedures... but here are some things you **MUST KNOW...**

Viscosupplementation is where a doctor introduces a gel-like medicine directly into the joint space. This helps to lubricate the joints often relieving some, most or even all of your pain. Results can last for 6 months to several years.

Many have had these treatments *without* good results. However, **NYC Pain MD** feels this is because doctors often do these “gel injections” without advanced imaging to guide them. Research shows they will often miss the joint. If the joint is missed... it is impossible for the treatment to work.

**NYC Pain MD** has spared no expense and used advanced imaging to guide the injections assuring the medicine gets into the joint. We frequently get results when this treatment was a failure done elsewhere.

**The second thing you must know is...** our treatment plans are custom made for every patient. And we have all these treatments

offered in the same place. Many times you will get the best results from multiple treatments. At **NYC Pain MD** your doctors will all be there and will all know each other and you and your case. They work together and give you the best treatments and care without you having to go anywhere else.

The ability to select the right patients and then have the potential to give them any or all of these treatments... with all the necessary medical technology... under one roof... has allowed **NYC Pain MD** to get better results than they thought possible.

### **Here’s What You Should Do Next**

If you suffer with knee pain... and any of this made sense to you... **NYC Pain MD** would like to offer you a No-cost screening. That screening is the first step in our “Treatment Formula.”

You will get to see a doctor and ask any questions you have. Your doctor will take the first steps to see if you qualify for treatments and give you recommendations.

**The best thing is...** you will finally get direction. You will know what’s going on and what is your best course of action... step-by-step. The treatments will be explained in detail and you will breathe a big sigh of relief finally knowing what’s going on and what can or cannot be done.

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# Trump lawyer Giuliani was paid \$500,000 to consult on indicted associate's firm

Federal prosecutors continue to investigate Giuliani.

President Donald Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, was paid \$500,000 for work he did for a company co-founded by the Ukrainian-American businessman arrested last week on campaign finance charges, Giuliani told Reuters on Monday.

The businessman, Lev Parnas, is a close associate of Giuliani and was involved in his effort to investigate Trump's political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden, who is a leading contender for the 2020 Democratic Party nomination.

Giuliani said Parnas' company, Boca Raton-based Fraud Guarantee, whose website says it aims to help clients "reduce and mitigate



Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani.

fraud", engaged Giuliani Partners, a management and security consulting firm, around August 2018. Giuliani said he was hired to consult on Fraud Guarantee's technologies and provide legal advice on regulatory issues.

Federal prosecu-

tors are "examining Giuliani's interactions" with Parnas and another Giuliani associate, Igor Fruman, who was also indicted on campaign finance charges, a law enforcement source told Reuters on Sunday.

The New York Times

reported last week that Parnas had told associates he paid Giuliani hundreds of thousands of dollars for what Giuliani said was business and legal advice. Giuliani said for the first time on Monday that the total amount was \$500,000.

Giuliani told Reuters the money came in two payments made within weeks of each other. He said he could not recall the dates of the payments. He said most of the work he did for Fraud Guarantee was completed in 2018 but that he had been doing follow-up for over a year.

Parnas and Fruman were arrested at Dulles Airport outside Washington last week on charges they funneled foreign money to unnamed U.S. politicians in a bid to influence U.S.-Ukraine relations in violation of U.S. campaign finance laws. The men were preparing

to board a plane to Europe.

According to an indictment unsealed by U.S. prosecutors, an unidenti-

**"I know beyond any doubt the source of the money is not any questionable source"**

Rudy Giuliani

fied Russian businessman arranged for two \$500,000 wires to be sent from foreign bank accounts to a U.S. account controlled by Fruman in September and October 2018. The money was used, in part, by Fruman, Parnas and

two other men charged in the indictment to gain influence with U.S. politicians and candidates, the indictment said.

Foreign nationals are prohibited from making contributions and other expenditures in connection with U.S. elections, and from making contributions in someone else's name.

Giuliani said he was confident that the money he received was from "a domestic source," but he would not say where it came from.

"I know beyond any doubt the source of the money is not any questionable source," he told Reuters in an interview. "The money did not come from foreigners. I can rule that out 100%," he said.

He declined to say whether the money had been paid directly to him by Fraud Guarantee or from another source. REUTERS

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# Transit Tech Lab announced its second round

On October 15, the Transit Tech Lab announced its second round.

The Transit Tech Lab is a joint venture between the MTA and the Partnership for New York City. The Transit Tech Lab is an accelerated program that allows private sector solutions to help the MTA and other public transportation agencies to improve the transportation system.

Entrepreneurs with products to help improve traffic coordination, improve accessibility or create new avenues of revenues are welcome to apply to participate in the Transit Tech Lab. Applications need to be received by November 30, 2019, to be considered for this opportunity.

portunity.

Pat Foye, Chairman of the MTA, said in a press release, "As we look to make unprecedented investments in service modernization, it is imperative that we utilize every avenue possible to open the MTA to the most creative technologists in mobility."

Additionally, Foye added, "The Transit Tech Lab is a proven partner for evaluating and introducing technologies that address some of our most critical challenges, and it has generated millions of dollars in value at no cost to the MTA."

Rachel Haot, Executive Director of the Transit Innovation Partnership, said in a press release, "The

future of our city depends on public transit. Thanks to the Governor and MTA's leadership and commitment to innovation, our public transit system is improving. With the Transit Tech Lab, we're excited to build on that momentum and make our city the global leader in mobility by attracting the most innovative companies from around the globe to improve transportation in New York."

Products will be chosen by experts from across numerous agencies. Those that are selected will participate in an eight-week accelerator program to showcase how their product can be a solution to a problem a specific agency

## Venture capital evaluators include:

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- Hilary Goshier, Managing Director, Insight Partners
- Maria Gotsch, President & CEO, Partnership Fund for New York City
- Nick Grossman, Partner, Union Square Ventures
- Dylan Hixon, Principal, Arden Road Investments
- Linda Kirkpatrick, Executive Vice President, U.S. Market Development, Mastercard
- Brian Yormak, Partner, Story Ventures

To apply for the Transit Tech Lab, you can visit [transitinnovation.org](http://transitinnovation.org) and apply online.

is looking to solve.

Since the program was so successful last year, NJ Transit, New York City Department of Transportation, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission and Amtrak will be participating in addition to the MTA.

When it comes to the proposals, experts in their chosen fields will be reviewing them, according to a press release.

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Josh, Metro Boston reader

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**Taurus** Sign on the dotted line and keep your plans moving forward. Entertain the thought of a partnership if it will help you reach your goal. Romance is on the rise.



**Gemini** Look for opportunities that will encourage better relationships. Trust, honesty and equality will be required if a partnership is going to go the distance. Stick to the standards you set.



**Cancer** If you brainstorm with people who share your vision, you will come up with a plan that will lead to a better future. Socializing or a romantic evening is favored.



**Leo** Be direct, know what you want and put your plan in motion. A change at home may not suit everyone you live with. Be willing to make adjustments.



**Virgo** If you participate in events that interest you, you will learn valuable information that could change the course of your life. An offer will lead to an exciting partnership.



**Libra** Keep clearing the way to freedom. Size up what you've been going through and face your feelings head-on. It's time to make room for the people and pastimes that bring you joy.



**Scorpio** Reconnect with old friends or family, or visit a destination you haven't been to for a long time. The memories will help you recall something that will ease your stress and enhance your outlook.



**Sagittarius** Concentrate on getting ahead. Channel your energy into something that will enhance your reputation, status or position. Volunteer your services to a worthy cause.



**Capricorn** Put more emphasis on improving yourself and spending time with people you find mentally stimulating. The combination will ignite your imagination and set the stage for a new adventure.



**Aquarius** Put emotional issues in perspective. Make decisions based on what's valid and in your best interest. Don't let yourself be guilted into paying for something you cannot afford.



**Pisces** An unusual opportunity is waiting for you. If you mingle with people who are leaders in fields that interest you, you'll get firsthand information that will give you a head start. EUGENIA LAST

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## LIFESTYLE

GREGORY WAKEMAN  
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

"Maleficent" was a huge success for Disney when it was released back in the summer of 2014.

Audiences of all ages were attracted to Angelina Jolie's mesmeric turn as the titular character, who was originally the antagonist of "Sleeping Beauty," but is presented in "Maleficent" in a much more sympathetic light as we get to see the story from her perspective.

As a result, you're forced to question whether or not Maleficent is actually evil. This grey area is exactly what "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" director Joachim Ronning wanted to dive even deeper into with the sequel.

"I think she is a little bit of both," he tells Metro, when asked whether or not Maleficent is evil. "First of all she is not human. She is a fae. She doesn't think like a human, she is very direct and wicked and has magic. I think audiences like that because we wish we had that. But she also has a big heart. And that shines through sometimes, especially because of her love for Aurora."

Having starred as Aurora in "Maleficent" when she was just 16, Elle Fanning was eager to return to the character in "Mistress of Evil," which sees Michelle Pfeiffer's Queen Ingrith cause a rift between Maleficent and her stepdaughter Aurora, during which time the pair form new allies, meet new enemies, and eventually have to explore their own histories so that they can try and



save the magical kingdom.

Because of the success of the original, Fanning felt a huge responsibility to once again do justice to Aurora, especially as scores of young girls regularly approach her to talk about the film. This meant that Fanning made sure "Mistress of

Evil" avoided the temptation to make Aurora "very dark" or just give her "armor and a sword" to prove her strength.

"Her true nature is kindness and acceptance and that's the Disney princess she is," the actress, who is now 21, explains to Metro. "She fights conflict in a differ-

ent way."

"I was soft. I loved dressing up in pink. But that doesn't make me any less of a strong woman. I wanted to celebrate her femininity. She wants to be strong and grow up and have babies and there's nothing wrong with that."

"So I wanted Aurora to be able to fight her battles in a pink dress and doing it with reason. Which is also the voice of the youth that we have today."

"Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" has even more parallels to the current political and social climate.

As well as Aurora and her husband-to-be Prince Philip being the wisest and most levelheaded of the leading characters, we also see Ingrith use fear to "control a false narrative" about Maleficent to divide the kingdom, something that the

current president of the United States of America has repeatedly been accused of doing.

Ronning and Fanning don't expect kids to pick up on every detail and theme that permeates throughout "Maleficent: Mistress of Evil," though.

"Obviously it is a children's film and a Disney movie. But Disney has always done well at introducing themes," explains Fanning, who is hopeful that the children that watch will still be able to "understand that it is wrong to exile people that are different."

"Acceptance and tolerance were big themes for us," adds Ronning. "The film is about kindness and acceptance and tolerance. We want people to be kind to one another."

"Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" is scheduled to be released on Oct. 18.

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# Laura Jane Grace on growing through the past of Against Me!

The band will play  
four of their beloved  
records on the road  
this fall.



PAT KING  
patrick.king@metro.us

When you think of someone like Laura Jane Grace, you generally do not associate her with someone who dwells too much on the past. As the singer-songwriter and creative focal point to the long-running punk band Against Me!, Grace has written songs about being restless with the mind-numbing mediocrity of both business-as-usual rock and roll and political agendas, the complacency of those not willing to make a meaningful difference. In a more concrete and finite way, she was one of the first well-known musicians to come out as transgender in 2012.

Grace has always looked for reinvention through song, giving fans a candid peek inside what is going on internally for her at that mo-

ment. That's why it was an interesting decision to hear that Against Me! would be performing the albums, "Searching for a Former Clarity," "New Wave," "White Crosses" and "Transgender Dysphoria Blues" at a number of special two-night runs in different cities around the country this fall, playing two albums each night. I caught up with Grace over the phone to discuss the decision to play these albums in sequence on the road and their places within the history of the band.

"I have this habit — well, it's not a habit because it's kind of subconscious — where I'll usually ruminate on ideas and themes and it will take me two records to get them right," says Grace. "For me, the ideas that I was starting out with on 'Searching for a Former Clarity,' I really came to my conclusion on them with 'New Wave.' I feel like lyrically, those records are very tied together. A lot of that has to do with the reasoning to want to do those albums back to back. Then also the following night with 'White

Crosses' and 'Transgender Dysphoria Blues,' they kind of feel the same way. But also between the four records, I feel there was a narrative running in like a, not to say a f—king rock opera, but I'm saying a rock opera (laughs). There's a plot running through them that I feel is interesting to look at them as a whole. 'White Crosses' and 'Transgender Dysphoria Blues' feel tied together in the same way that 'Searching' and 'New Wave' did. Even in the way where you can look at the last songs on 'Searching' and 'New Wave' ['Searching for a Former Clarity' and 'The Ocean,' respectively]. Both of those songs, for me, were confessions for me with where I was at. Even if they were subconscious confessions of what I was going through internally and dealing with. I feel like I got it more right with 'New Wave' than I did with 'Searching.'"

This isn't the first time the band has taken a stab at playing albums front-to-back, but none of their previous attempts were quite as ambitious as this tour. They played their



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classic debut "Reinventing Axl Rose" front-to-back at their hometown punk festival, The Fest, back in 2017 and did the same at Riot Fest this year with a performance of "Transgender Dysphoria Blues." But as Grace tells me, she and the band needed to take a look at this stretch of albums to see what ground they can cover on their next record. It is also worth noting that bassist Andrew Seward is back performing with the band after leaving in 2013.

"On a bigger scale, right now we're going through this period where we're working on a new album as a band," she says. "So before we move forward, let's go back through and see where we've been. It's maybe kind of a self-indulgent thing to do, but also kind of at the same time it's sort of necessary since we're about to do our eighth album. You can allow yourself a little bit of room for introspection and to reflect on where you've been and what it took you to get where you are in order to start to move forward."

Last year, Laura Jane Grace spent time on the road with her other band, The Devouring Mothers, behind her solo record, "Bought to Rot," a record that felt as vital and important as any of her releases. So, given that Against Me! is performing these shows after over 20 years as a band, this hardly seems like a move to take advantage of their legacy, but rather to be-

come reacquainted with the larger story.

"Stuff like that is all about perspective and all the way that you look at it," says Grace on the subject of resting on your laurels. "I spent a little bit of time in Amsterdam this past year and I went to the Van Gogh Museum a couple of times. I love the Van Gogh Museum. I love Van Gogh. But, looking at Van Gogh's body of work I was overcome with this realization, holy sh-t, Van Gogh was just painting self-portraits! How many days of this person's life did they wake up and say, 'Well, I'm just going to paint another picture of myself today!' You can look at that really damn-ingly and say 'what a vain motherf---ker this is the original Instagrammer. All he was doing was taking selfies all day long'. Or you can give him the benefit of the doubt or look at it a different way and think maybe it wasn't about the subject matter at all. Maybe it was about the act of painting and being in the practice of painting. And that's what the work was about at that moment and not just 'look at another f---king picture of me' (laughs). I kind of like to try and think about it like that with reapproaching old albums and doing these album shows. It's about being a musician and playing the songs while not rehashing."

If you have been following Against Me! for the duration of their career, then you probably know

that they have some of the most divisive fans out there. Many take a hard-line stance on only accepting their older scrap-ier material and have shunned all of the ambitious strides in the studio that the band has made over the years. One record in particular, "White Crosses," is a hot button issue with fans and one that Grace hopes will gain more appreciation when heard within the context of the records that came before and after.

"Most of all of our records, that's the record where I definitely recognized at first that people were down on it. But it's had this underdog mentality where people have come around and say, 'Actually, that's my favorite Against Me! record.' Every time I see that I'm like, 'Yeah, motherf---ker. That's right!'"

"That's a kind of unique example with the motivations behind wanting to do that record. That record, when it was made it was a case where we were reaching beyond where we were really at as musicians and as a band....For anyone who thinks that record is too overproduced...this is just us playing it. We won't have a piano player with us that night. So the songs with piano on them will just be more raw and a four-piece punk band."

*Catch Against Me! playing these landmark albums Friday, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Starland Ballroom in Sayreville, NJ.*



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# Morphsuits: origin of “the masked” fashion

Covering up a full body has been done for years. And different ways of doing it always appear. Metro highlights some of them.



LUZ LANCHEROS MWN  
letters@metro.us

In a world of millions of posts trying to impact an eye that increasingly needs visual stimulation, the last fashion month was able to capture attention with “masked” style. Well, it has been around for some time already, but its presence at front rows generates intrigue. We are talking about the Checking Invoices duo that has 73k+ followers, which

dresses its models practically covering their entire body with Balenciaga, Gucci and Fendi, among other major brands. And in that way they create fashion images that shine with anonymity.

Their images are breaking into the “normality” of the street to contrast with people’s reactions.

“Fashion is about showing who you are, so it’s a criticism of appearance,” they told the media.

They have been the image of Gucci, among other brands. In fact, the Italian brand used similar elements for its Fall / Winter 2017-2018 parade, as well as Richard Quinn, in England, Balenciaga and Vetements. Even Rihanna, dressed in Gucci, had a suit that covered all of her body. But what are these pieces? What are their names? Where do they come from?

## Morphsuits: camouflage to stand out

We see them now with the Checking Invoices and in movies such as “Vox Lux” (which starred Natalie Portman), as well as in videos like “Yo x ti, tu x mi” by Rosalía; the Belgian designer Walter Van Beirendonck has already used them at a catwalk. These dresses are of theatrical origin (used as camouflage on stage) and in Japan they are called Zen-tai, translated as “tight clothing for the whole body,” which has been explored in the culture of superheroes. They also find an origin in the Kabuki theater (called “Kigurumi”) and were used for performances in the ‘80s by

the artist Leigh Bowery. And of course, with all this background, the irony is that they stand out while criticizing the desire to stand out (in the case of Checking Invoices) at the performative and editorial level.

## The mockery in the era of Instagram

The irony is not new, especially in fashion. Nor is social criticism, which has more than one reading when it is done for a performance.

William Cruz Bermeo, teacher and fashion historian at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, explained to Metro what Checking Invoices represents.

“Part of the

sensitivity on Instagram and what many people support is praised just like that for a lack of knowledge of the same story, for a lack of image culture. I think the situation around the morphsuits, like what happened around Diet Prada, comes from this. As for Leigh Bowery, what made him radical was erasing his face through the disguise to embody that female character, as a kind of queen mother, big, fat, imposing. But it was disturbing because what he did in large part was not to build a visual figure, but to break with everyday life. Here what we see is a water-borne version, made for the camera.

“I do not see this as a strong bet on anonymity. It can be visually attractive and disruptive, it can show something, but there are several aggravating factors: we live in an era where people love an image more than the reality of it. Also, the networks already know what they like, what generates controversy, what moves, through colors, poses, etc. That is predictable. This leads to a very particular homogenization of the image. Fashion has a built an image and it is more difficult to create blunt ones.”

Perhaps there is no transcendence or permanence in an era in which the fashion platforms privilege their ephemeral character. It may not be their intention either. But for now, they are another way of surprising, even momentarily, the industry which desperately wants to escape the common.



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MWN

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## SPORTS

# Gerrit Cole shuts down Yankees, Astros take Game 3 of ALCS

The Yankees could not find a way to break through against Gerrit Cole on Tuesday night in the Bronx as the Astros took a 2-1 ALCS lead.



JOE PANTORNO  
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Much like the rest of Major League Baseball this season, the New York Yankees were unable to figure out Gerrit Cole on Tuesday night in the Bronx as the Houston Astros took Game 3 of the ALCS 4-1 to take a 2-1 series lead.

Jose Altuve and Josh Reddick provided early home runs to pace Houston's offense, which did just enough to give Cole the support that he needed to put the Yankees in their first series deficit of the postseason.

Cole went seven innings in the hostile Yankee Stadium without allowing a single run

on four hits with seven strikeouts.

His stellar outing wasn't an unexpected turn of events. It was a well-known fact that there was little room for error for Luis Severino and the Yankees.

Cole has been as close to untouchable as the game has ever seen. Since May 27 (including two postseason starts against the Rays in the ALDS), Cole was 18-0 with 251 strikeouts. That included an MLB record of 11 straight starts with at least 10 strikeouts.

Severino did his part to keep the Yankees in it outside two early mistakes to Houston's deep lineup, allowing two runs on five hits in 4.1 innings with six strikeouts and three walks.

Altuve jumped on a first-pitch fastball with one out in the opening inning to give the Astros a 1-0 lead before Cole even took the mound.

An inning later, it was Reddick who tagged Severino for a lead-off, solo shot that landed in the second deck of the right-field stands.

While Cole provided



Gerrit Cole threw seven innings of scoreless ball on Tuesday night in Game 3 of the ALCS. GETTY IMAGES

one of the most imposing figures on the mound in recent postseason history for the Yankees, the Astros rightly left the door open for scoring opportunities.

The Yankees just didn't take advantage.

They left nine runners on through the first five innings — which included Cole walking a season-high five batters — but failed to plate a run.

With two outs and the bases loaded in the first inning, Didi Gregorius grounded out on the first pitch he saw.

Aaron Judge struck out with runners on first and second with two outs in the second. With identical ducks on

the pond in the fourth, DJ LeMahieu flew out to center after getting a pair of hits in his first two at-bats.

The fifth inning provided an almost 20-minute delay when home-plate umpire Jeff Nelson was forced to leave after being struck twice in the head by foul balls, which resulted in a concussion.

With new ump Kevin Danley behind the dish, Severino allowed a single to Michael Brantley and walked Alex Bregman with one out, which prompted Boone to call on his clean-up man Chad Green to get out of the jam.

He did just that, getting Yuli Gurriel to line out before striking out

Yordan Alvarez. For Green, it was sixth and seventh runners he inherited this postseason when entering a game. None of them scored.

The following half-inning saw Gregorius come within three feet of giving the Yankees the lead. After Cole allowed a two-out double to Edwin Encarnacion and a walk to Gleyber Torres, the Yankees shortstop towered a fly ball to left field that was caught by Reddick with his back to the fence.

Houston managed to tack on two more runs in the seventh inning when Zack Britton couldn't clean up Adam Ottavino's mess.

Ottavino left Britton

with runners on first and third with no outs after a walk to George Springer, who moved to third on a hit-and-run single by Altuve.

After a fielder's choice and an intentional walk loaded the bases, Britton spiked a wild pitch past Gary Sanchez to allow a run to score. An ensuing sacrifice fly from Gurriel put the Astros 4-0.

Torres finally got the Yankees on the board as soon as Cole exited, muscling an opposite-field home run off Joe Smith with one out in the eighth. But that was all they'd get as Houston went to Will Smith and Roberto Osuna to close Game 3 out.



## HOW DOES GAME 3 LOSS BODE FOR YANKEES?

While the Game 3 loss on Tuesday night was a difficult one for the Yankees and their fans to stomach, does it doom the Yankees?

Not necessarily, actually.

In fact, Game 3 of the American League Championship Series is a game that has a limited say in who moves on to the World Series.

Metro took a look back at the numbers since the ALCS was moved to a best-of-seven format starting in 1985.

### SERIES RECORD FOR TEAMS WHO WON GAME 3 OF ALCS

**19-14**

### YANKEES' ALCS RECORD WHEN THEY LOSE GAME 3

**4-2**

### YANKEES' ALCS RECORD WHEN THEY WIN GAME 3

**3-2**

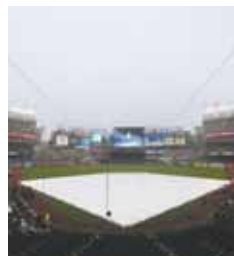
## Rain puts tonight's Game 4 in doubt

Mother Nature is poised to have a major say in the ALCS.

With Game 4 scheduled for tonight at Yankee Stadium, the weather report is not looking too promising.

Heavy rains are expected to hit the area starting as early as 3 p.m. and continue through early Thursday morning. The latest projections show that the chances of precipitation won't drop under 65 percent until 11 p.m. Wednesday night.

If Major League Baseball makes that call, Game 4 will be moved to Thursday night — which changes the outlook of



GETTY IMAGES

both the Yankees and Astros.

Houston would be able to start Zack Greinke on regular rest. The veteran righty will be looking to rebound after allowing three runs on seven hits in six innings during Game 1, which the Yan-

kees won 7-0.

For the Yankees, Game 4 getting pushed back would allow manager Aaron Boone to skip starting a reliever such as Chad Green in a bullpen game.

Instead, Masahiro Tanaka would get the ball as he continues to build his impressive postseason resume.

Tanaka pitched a gem in Game 1, facing the minimum over six innings while allowing just one hit. He was lifted after just 68 pitches by Boone, who kept the 30-year-old fresh and got to his stellar bullpen.

JOE PANTORNO





Sam Darnold turned the Jets around in just one week with a victory over the Cowboys. GETTY IMAGES

# Could the Jets actually make the playoffs?



JOE PANTORNO  
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

I know, I can't believe I'm asking this question right now, either.

But with Sam Darnold back under center, the New York Jets look like a completely different football team — from junior varsity to the NFL in the blink of an eye.

It's hard to believe that the return of just one player can create such a turnaround, but Darnold took the Jets from a 31-6 drubbing at the hands of the Philadelphia Eagles with Luke Falk under center to 24-22 winners against the once-perceived big, bad Dallas Cowboys on Sunday.

Darnold looked like the franchise quarterback he was touted to be after fully recovering from a bout with mononucleosis. He completed 71.8 percent of his passes for 338 yards and two touchdowns.

Leading the Jets on three touchdown drives, Darnold helped New York record more offensive touchdowns in Week 6 than they had in their first four games of the season combined.

A win against a (possibly) quality team will obviously provide illusions of grandeur for a Jets fan base starving for success. This is a team, after all, that hasn't made the playoffs since 2010 and has had a winning record just once in the previous eight seasons.

So if the Jets can beat the Cowboys, why couldn't they beat up on some of the weaker teams in the league?

Luckily, their schedule provides a bevy of those advantageous matchups.

Just look at their remaining schedule:

**WEEK 7  
VS. PATRIOTS (6-0)**

**WEEK 8  
AT JAGUARS (2-4)**

**WEEK 9  
AT DOLPHINS (0-5)**

**WEEK 10  
VS. GIANTS (2-4)**

**WEEK 11  
AT REDSKINS (1-5)**

**WEEK 12  
VS. RAIDERS (3-2)**

**WEEK 13  
AT BENGALS (0-6)**

**WEEK 14  
VS. DOLPHINS (0-5)**

**WEEK 15  
AT RAIDERS (4-2)**

**WEEK 16  
VS. STEELERS (2-4)**

**WEEK 17  
AT BILLS (4-1)**

Seeing how they played on Sunday — and figuring they'll only get better the longer Darnold reacclimates — the Jets should (key word, 'should') beat the Dolphins twice, the Jaguars, Giants, Redskins, and Bengals.

Matchups against the Raiders and Steelers should also be categorized as winnable games, but their inconsistencies throughout the early portions of the season make them unpredictable.

That could leave the Jets with seven-to-nine wins — which will put them in the AFC Wild Card conversation — entering Week 17 against the Buffalo Bills, where revenge will be on the minds of Gang Green after blowing a 16-point lead in Week 1.

Are we getting ahead of ourselves?

Probably, but crazier things have happened.

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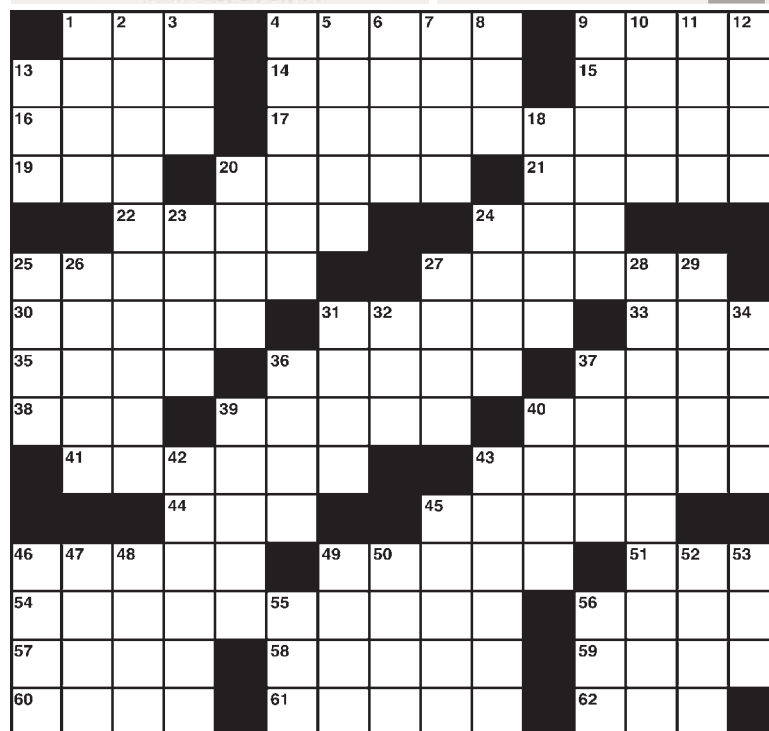
## GAMES

## ACROSS

- 1 "He Ain't Heavy, \_\_\_ My Brother"  
4 Perspiration  
9 Sign of healing  
13 Bank teller's call  
14 Hunt illegally  
15 Sheltered bay  
16 Hee-haw  
17 Heartbeat irregularity  
19 "The Goldbergs" network  
20 \_\_\_ enough; ironically  
21 Tall marsh grasses  
22 Santa's helpers  
24 Ho-\_\_\_; boring  
25 Main characters in novels  
27 Rejuvenates  
30 Not rural  
31 Outer garment  
33 \_\_\_ humble pie; apologize  
35 Tiny weight  
36 Winner  
37 Insulting remark  
38 \_\_\_ in one's ways;
- inflexible  
39 A+ or C-, for example  
40 Country estate  
41 Wheeler-\_\_\_; shrewd operator  
43 Powerful  
44 Piglet's ma  
45 Children's author A.A. \_\_\_  
46 Cowboy's rope  
49 Happy expression  
51 Encycl. volume, perhaps  
54 Light up  
56 Run away  
57 Close angrily  
58 Striped animal  
59 Virginia \_\_\_; lively dance  
60 \_\_\_ A personality; dynamo  
61 \_\_\_ up; agitates  
62 Linear measures: abbr.

## DOWN

- 1 Sage or thyme  
2 Make worse  
3 Eyelid inflammation  
4 Shovels  
5 Have \_\_\_; bicker  
6 Actor James \_\_\_ Jones  
7 Sore  
8 "Honor \_\_\_ father and..."  
9 Crafty plot
- 10 "O \_\_\_, All Ye Faithful"  
11 Ardent  
12 TV's Arthur & others  
13 Hoopsters' org.  
18 Spare tire's place  
20 Baker's need  
23 Rich soil  
24 Stack  
25 Embraces  
26 Miscalculated  
27 Most populous Italian city  
28 Prosperous  
29 \_\_\_ Ste. Marie  
31 Blacken  
32 Youth  
34 Waiter's item  
36 Rowing team  
37 Endorse  
39 Darkness; sadness  
40 Contemptible  
42 Take for granted  
43 Some racers  
45 Bishops' headdress  
46 Shopper's paper  
47 Friendly nation  
48 \_\_\_ in the face; insult  
49 In a \_\_\_; miffed  
50 Epiphany visitors  
52 Charges  
53 Vaseline, for one  
55 "\_\_\_ Now or Never"  
56 Cook in oil

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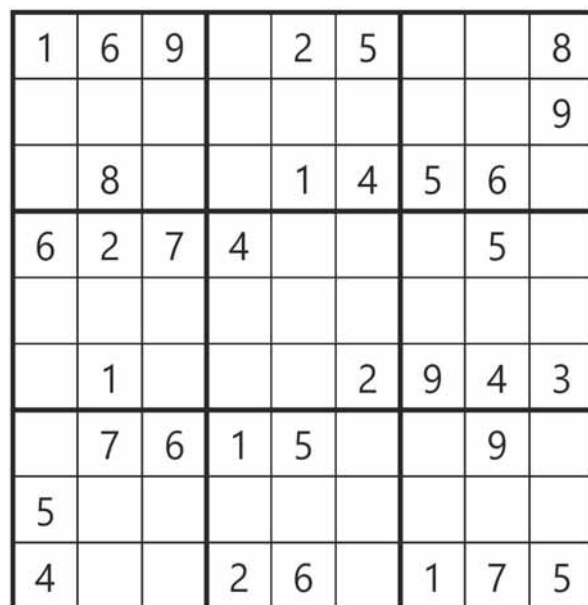
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